Proposals of State Government for Development of Tourism

2129. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Tourism has received project proposals from different State Governments of development of tourism in their respective States;

(b) if so, the States from which such project proposals have come during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(c) the details of such proposals; and

(d) the action taken by the Central Government to develop those tourism projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARTI): (a) to (d) The development of tourism is mainly undertaken by the State Governments. However, to supplement their efforts, Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to them for the projects/schemes prioritised every year in consultation with them.

During the last three years, 774 projects for development of tourism have been received in the Ministry of Tourism from all States in the country. These projects relate to construction/creation of tourist facilities namely; Wayside amenities, Tourist Bungalows, Tourist Reception Centre, Yatri Niwas, Refurbishment of monuments, Development of Pilgrim Centres, Sound and Light Show, Purchase of Adventure equipment etc. Sanctioned projects/ scheme are implemented by the respective State Governments.

Maintaining Cultural Value Through Tourism

†2130. SHRI JHUMUKLAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cultural, social moral traditional and ecological values are getting eroded because of present nature of tourism and whether the overall objective of tourism has been confined to earn foreign exchange only; and